

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-7, 9-11, 22-30, 33, 34 and 36-44 are currently pending and are now presented for examination. Applicants acknowledge, with appreciation, the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-7, 9-11, 22-28, and 33-44. Of note, Claim 35 is indicated in the Office Action as being pending and allowed, but this claim was cancelled without prejudice and without disclaimer of subject matter in Applicants' Amendment dated October 20, 2005. Accordingly, it is Applicants' understanding that claims 1-7, 9-11, 22-28, and 33, 34 and 36-44 are allowed as of the issuance of the January 10, 2006 Office Action.

Claim 29 has been amended to be placed in dependent form. No new matter has been added.

**CLAIM 29 IS REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 AS  
BEING ANTICIPATED BY CLARE, U.S. PATENT NO. 5,745,036**

Initially, Applicants note that claim 29 has been amended to depend from allowed claim 28. Therefore, Applicants submit that claim 29 is allowable over Clare at least based upon its dependency to allowed claim 28. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the rejection of claim 29.

**CLAIM 30 IS REJECTED UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103 FOR OBVIOUSNESS BASED UPON CLARE IN  
VIEW OF SALIM *ET AL.*, U.S. PATENT PUBLICATION NO. 2004/0113791 (HEREINAFTER SALIM)**

Claim 30 depends from claim 29, and Applicants incorporate herein the arguments previously advanced in traversing the imposed rejection of claim 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 for anticipation based upon Clare. Applicants submit that claim 30 is allowable over the combination of Clare and Salim at least based upon its ultimate dependency to allowed claim 28. Applicants, therefore, respectfully solicit withdrawal of the imposed rejection of claim 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 for obviousness based upon Clare in view of Salim.

Applicants have made every effort to present claims which distinguish over the prior art, and it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, and in view of the

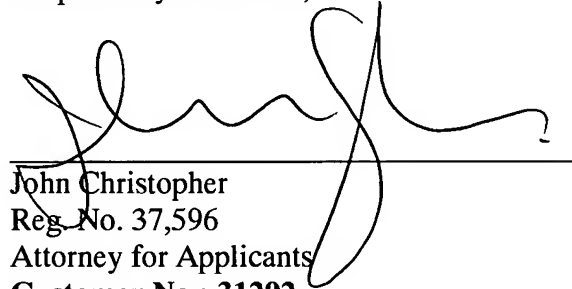
foregoing remarks, Applicants hereby respectfully request reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims.

Of note, Applicants' undersigned representative is registered to practice before the United States Patent & Trademark Office. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.34 and M.P.E.P. § 405, the signature of Applicants' undersigned representative is representation that he is authorized to represent Applicants and the assignee on whose behalf he is acting.

The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss any matter that would expedite allowance of the present application.

Date: April 10, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Christopher', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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